

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-13

DPW-01 EUR-25 ACDA-19 NIC-01 RSR-01 /139 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0065

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A, DECON 5/22/74

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN- PRG BILATERALS: 13 TH PLENARY SESSION, MAY 30, 1973

1. SUMMARY. THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT AT THE SESSION, AND THE ACRIMONIOUS TONE OF BOTH PREPARED STATEMENTS AND IMPROMPTU REMARKS WAS MARKED RETROGRESSION FROM THE CONCILIATORY APPROACHES IN PRECEDING MEETINGS. HIEU ( PRG) AND VIEN ( GVN) HELD FAST TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPOSALS OF APRIL 25, WITH VIEN URGING PRG ACCEPTANCE OF THE RECENT SEVEN PINT GVN CEASEFIRE PLAN. IN COMMENTS TO THE PRESS GVN REPRESENTATIVES TRIED TO PLACE ENTIRE BLAME UPON THE PRG FOR THE CANADIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM ICCS. ( NIETHER SIDE COMMENTED ON THE COMING KISSINGER- THO MEETINGS.) THE NEXT SVN BILATERAL SESSION WILL BE HELD JUNE 7. ( END SUMMARY).

2. PRG CHIEF DELEGATE HIEU OPENED BY TERMING EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF TH CEASEFIRE THE SINE QUA NON TO RESOLUTION OF ANY OTHER PROBLEMS. HE COMPLETED THE USUAL TRIPLE FORMULATION BY DEMANDING RELEASE OF CIVILIAN DETAINEES AND RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS. HIEU THEN LAUNCHED INTO AN ACRIMONIOUS DENUNCIATION OF THE GVN AS ILLEGITIMATE IN ORIGIN AND

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BRUTALLY ANTIDEMOCRATIC IN PRACTICE. THE PRG WAS ONLY NEGOTIATING WITH THE GVN AS AN EQUAL IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE AGREEMENT AND TO ACT IN THE HIGHER INTERESTS OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, BUT THE PRG HAD NOT FORGOTTEN THE TRUE NATURE OF THE GVN. AFTER PORTRAYING THE PRG AS THE DEFENDER OF THE "THIRD FORCE", HIEU CONCLUDED BY DEMANDING GVN ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRG SIX POINTS OF APRIL 25.

3. DESCRIBING "FIVE REALITIES" ABOUT THE PRG TOOK UP THE FIRST PART OF THE GVN CHIEF DELEGATE'S STATEMENT. DEPUTY PRIMIN VIEN CHARACTERIZED THE PRG AS (A) MERE SERVANT OF COMMUNIST SUPERPOWERS; (B) PERSECUTORS OF THE SVN POPULATION; (C) RELENTLESS CONSPIRATORS OVER TWENTY YEARS TO SUBJUGATE THAT POPULATION; (D) GROSS VIOLATORS OF THE AGREEMENT (VIEN ALLEGED BOTH CANADA AND INDONESIA HAD CONFIRMED THIS WITHIN ICCS); AND (E) NON-NEGOTIATORS, BOTH AT LA CELLE AND IN THE TPJMC. THE PRG HAD ABANDONED NEITHER ITS SCHEME TO TAKE SVN BY FORCE NOR ITS REFUSAL TO ALLOW POPULAR SELF-DETERMINATION. THE PRG DID NOT DARE TO FACE A POPULAR VERDICT IN FREE ELECTIONS, VIEN CHARGED, CITING IN EVIDENCE STATEMENTS BY A "FRENCH JOURNALIST" AND "A POLISH MEMBER OF ICCS."

4. VIEN CHALLENGED THE PRG TO NAME INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD REPRESENT THE "THIRD FORCE" IN A NCRC. HE HELD THAT THE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTY OF MAKING SUCH DESIGNATIONS IN A PUBLIC FORUM ILLUSTRATED THE APPROPRIATENESS OF GVN-PROPOSED PRIVATE TALKS, ON THIS AND OTHER SUBJECTS. VIEN UPHELD THE GVN PROPOSALS OF APRIL 25 AND RECENT SEVEN-POINT PLAN WITHIN THE TPJMC. HE CLOSED BY DEMANDING THE PRG CEASE STALLING TO GAIN TIME FOR "PREPARING A MILITARY OFFENSIVE OR AWAITING A MIRACLE."

5. EXCHANGES OF IMPROMPTU REMARKS WERE EQUALLY RANCOROUS. IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE JUNE 7.

6. THE POST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCES WERE UNEDIFYING. BOTH SIDES DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS BETWEEN DR. KISSINGER AND LE DUC THO NEXT WEEK, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A SUBJECT OF FAR GREATER INTEREST TO THE PRESS THAN THE DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

7. DAN (GVN) EXPLAINED THE MORE POLEMICAL AND STRIDENT TONE OF THE SESSION AS A PRG ATTEMPT TO CAMOUFLAGE ITS HAVING FORCED THE CANADIAN WITHDRAWAL DECISION. (VIEN HAD MADE A SIMILAR ACCUSATION BEFORE THE PRESS ON

ENTERING THE PLENARY.) CANADIAN OFFICIALS AND JOURNALISTS HAD OVERTLY CONDEMNED MULTIPLE COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO DAN. SAU ( PRG), IN HIS TURN, ACCUSED VIEN OF PRESENTING " VULGAR ANTI- COMMUNIST DIATRIBES" AT THE SESSION. IN A LENGTHY OUTBURST SAU SCORED PRESIDENT THIEU' S POLICIES, ACTIONS, SPEECHES, AND TRAITS. SAU' S MAIN SUBSTANTIVE THEME WAS REITERATION OF THE NECESSITY FOR AN EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE.  
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